

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 2955

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS BEIRUT 7716

CURRENT REACTION, ATTN IOR/ M, IBS, IPS, INE

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: NIXON- BREZHNEV SUMMIT

1. WASHINGTON SUMMIT CONTINUES TO RECEIVE EDITORIAL COMMENT. WHILE INDEPENDENT AND PRO- CAIRO PAPERS CRITICIZE SOVIET ATTITUDE DURING TALKS, COMMUNIST AND PRO- SOVIET PAPERS STRONGLY PRAISE MOSCOW' S " DEFENSE OF ARAB CAUSES."

2. COMMENTING ON SUMMIT, INDEPENDENT AN NAHAR SAID: " MOST PROMINENT THING WHICH NIXON- BREZHNEV SUMMIT TALKS CONSECRATED IS THAT MOSCOW HAS LOST ITS CHARACTER AS ' EGYPT' S MAIN AND BASIC ALLY'. IT IS A CHARACTER WHICH MOSCOW MAINTAINED FOR SEVERAL YEARS DESPITE FLUCTUATION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. WHAT IS TAKING PLACE NOW BETWEEN EGYPT AND USSR IS CONTINUATION OF WHAT TOOK PLACE BETWEEN THEM FOLLOWING MOSCOW SUMMIT WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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RESULTED IN EVICTION OF SOVIET EXPERTS. IT IS RESULT OF DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET- AMERICAN CO- EXISTENCE POLICY."

3. LEFTIST PRO- CAIRO AL MUHARRIR SAID: " WORLD HAS DECIDED TO GO AHEAD IN HANDLING ITS OWN AFFAIRS AND TO LEAVE QUESTION OF OUR STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL TO TIME. THIS IS DEFINITE RESULT OF BREZHNEV' S SUMMIT TALKS WITH US AND FRENCH PRESIDENTS... REVIEW OF HISTORY INDICATES THAT WHEN WORLD LEAVES MAJOR ISSUE FOR TIME TO SETTLE, THIS MEANS THAT SUCH ISSUE IS OF KIND THAT SHOULD BE SOLVED BY PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. IT IS SO BIG THAT IT CANNOT BE SUBJECT OF BARGAINING. BUT WHEN WORLD DECIDES TO LEAVE OUR CAUSE FOR TIME, WE SHOULD NOT LEAVE IT FOR HISTORY."

4. COMMUNIST AN NIDA HIT STRONGLY AT CAIRO PAPERS WHICH " CAST SUSPICION ON ATTITUDE OF SOVIET UNION TOWARD ARAB CAUSES." PAPER SAID: " TALKS HAVE REVEALED THAT MIDEAST CRISIS OCCUPIED IMPORTANTPLACE THAT CANNOT BE MEASURED BY NUMBER OF WORDS ABOUT IT IN JOINT STATEMENT WHICH EMPHASISED THAT USSR HAD NOT SHIFTED ONE IOTA FROM ITS POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR ARABS AND PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. HOWEVER, CAIRO PAPERS AND THOSE OF SOME OTHER ARAB CAPITALS PERSIST IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO PORTRAY ARAB PEOPLES AS BIG LOSERS FROM THIS ACCORD BETWEEN TWO BIG POWERS, CLAIMING THAT LATTER ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN FINDING SOLUTION FOR CRISIS. SUCH ATTITUDE INDICATES, NOT ONLY THAT THOSE LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN SEE NO ROLE FOR THEM TO PLAY IN THIS CAUSE, WHICH IS OURS IN FIRST PLACE, OTHER THAN TO ' WAIT FOR SOLUTIONM' IT ALSO INDICATES CONTINUED FAILURE OF THESE FORCES TO HANDLE CAUSE PROPERLY AND TO CONFRONT ZIONIST AGGRESSION AND IMPERIALIST ATTACK. THEY ONLY CONTINUE TO BLAME OTHERS FOR THIS FAILURE, PORTRAYING EVERY WORLD EVENT AS JUSTIFICATION FOR POSTPONEMENT OF " PROMISED BATTLE."

5. LEFTIST PRO- SOVIET ASH SHAAB ECHOED SAME THEME: " IT IS NOT SURPRISING FOR IMPERIALIST PAPERS TO CAST SUSPICION ON SOVIET- ARAB FRIENDSHIP. BUT FOR ARAB PAPERS TO DO SO IS VERY SURPSING... SLANDEROUS CAMPAIGN ACCUSING SOVIETS OF PLOTTING AGAINST ARABS THROUGH AGREEMENT WITH AMERICANS WILL NEVER AFFECT SOVIET ARAB FRIENDSHIP BECAUSE IT IS BUILT ON STRONG FOUNDATION AND BECAUSE CAMPAIGN IS WORK OF IMPERIALIST CIRCLES, ARAB REACTIONARIES AND MAOIST CIRCLES. THOSE BEHIND SUCH MAD CAMPAIGNS FORGET UNCLASSIFIED

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PEKING' S ATTITUDE, WHICH OPPOSES POLICIES OF PROGRESSIVE ARAB STATES LIKE EGYPT, SYRIA AND IRAQ WHICH ARE CONFRONTING IMPERIALISM AND ZIONIS M." HOUGHTON

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